

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 EB-08 SS-15 L-03 STR-07
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 COME-00 AGR-01
OMB-01 NSCE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 OES-07 HEW-04 SSO-00
INRE-00 /077 W

-----079613 191317Z /53

O 191230Z APR 78

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7981

USICA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

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DEPARTMENT FOR AF/W - DOTT, AID/CAWA - NICHOLSON, AND

AID/SER/CFS - MOSER

AGENCY FOR AF - ANDEREGG

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, NI

SUBJECT: ECONOMIC BILATERAL TALKS; EDUCATION WORKING GROUP

REF: (A) KOTT-CAHILL TELCON APRIL 19, (B) LAGOS 4782

1. EMBASSY FEELS THAT AMINU PAPER SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS BACKGROUND DOCUMENT AND, AS SUCH, SHOULD NOT BE USED TO MAKE MAJOR CHANGES TO EDUCATION WORKING GROUP SCHEDULE. IT ESPECIALLY SHOULD NOT CAUSE OTHER WORKING GROUPS TO MODIFY THEIR SCHEDULES AT THIS LATE DATE. ON THE OTHER HAND, MUCH OF THE PAPER RELATING TO EDUCATION IS USEFUL IN ESTABLISHING SOME NIGERIAN PRIORITIES FOR EDUCATION COOPERATION AND TO THE EXTENT FEASIBLE COULD BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN PLANNING.

2. EMBASSY COMMENTS ON THE ISSUES IN PARA 4 REF B FOLLOW:

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(A) QUESTION OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION - THIS WAS ON OUR AGENDA ALREADY. THE NEW DIMENSION IS THE POSSIBILITY OF AN EXTENDED PROGRAM ON DEVELOPING TECHNICAL AWARENESS. THIS SHOULD NOT REQUIRE MORE THAN ONE ADDITIONAL EXPERT IN TECHNICAL EDUCATION TO DEAL WITH THE QUESTION OF "LIFELONG LEARNING" OR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMS AND OTHER MEANS TO POPULARIZE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.

(B) PROVISION OF U.S. SCIENCE TEACHERS TO SECNDARY SCHOOLS AND TECHNICAL COLLEGES - AMINU'S INTEREST HERD WAS SPARKED BY A FOPMER AID OFFICIAL'S SUGGESTION THAT THE "SCIENCE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION" MIGHT BE ABLE TO PROVIDE INFORMATION THERFORE, AGAIN, THIS AGENDA ITEM SHOULD REQUIRE NO MORE THAN AN APPROPRIATE REPRESENTATIVE TO DISCUSS THE FEASIBILITY OF ENCOURAGING AMERICAN SCIENCE TEACHERS TO GO TO NIGERIA.

(C) BASIC HEALTH TRAINING - THE QUESTION OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH EDUCATION IS A SIGNIFICANT NEW ELEMENT (CLEARLY BASED AT LEAST IN PART ON AMINU'S OWN INTEREST AS A MEDICAL DOCTOR). WE CAN LISTEN TO AMINU'S INTERESTS AND, IF IT IS FEASIBLE, HAVE SOMEONE AVAILABLE TO DISCUSS THEM.

(D) UNIVERSITY COOPERATION - THIS MATTER IS ALREADY UNDER CONSIDERATION AND WE MIGHT HOPE TO SIGN THE IMPLEMENTATION LETTER, LAGOS 4613 AND STATE 096919, ESTABLISHING THE PROCEDURES FOR UTILIZATION OF THE BLOCK GRANT FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUPPLEMENTATION.

(E) ENTRANCE OF MEDICAL DOCTORS FOR TRAINING IN THE U.S. - THIS IS AN ENTIRELY NEW MATTER AND COULD EITHER BE TAKEN UNDER ADVISEMENT (I.E., AMINU'S ARGUMENT LISTENED TO WITH THE COMMITMENT TO INVESTIGATE MEANS OF AMELIORATING THE PROBLEM) OR SOMEONE COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE TO DISCUSS THE MATTER OR BOTH.

(F) THE QUESTION OF CONCESSIONAL AID - THIS RELATES TO AMINU'S ARGUMENT THAT THE BLOCK GRANT SHOULD BE EXTENDED TO ALLOW A CONTINUED SUPPLEMENTATION PROGRAM. AMINU KNOWS THIS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MATTER WAS DISCUSSED AT THE HEAD OF STATE LEVEL AND THAT NO RESOLUTION CAN BE OBTAINED DURING THESE MEETINGS. HOWEVER, HE WANTS IT ON THE RECORD.

3. RE PARA 5 REF B, CANCELLING MINNESOTA TRIP UNLESS IT IS CLEAR THAT THERE IS AMPLE TIME IS PROBABLY A GOOD IDEA. THE ALTERNATIVE OF FIELD TRIPS IN THE WASHINGTON AREA APPEARS ACCEPTABLE TO US.
4. HOPE THE FOREGOING IS HELPFUL IN FORMULATING OFFICIAL AGENDA PLANS FOR THE EDUCATION WORKING GROUP. WE DO NOT FEEL ANYTHING IN AMINU'S PAPER SHOULD AFFECT OTHER THAN THE EDUCATION WORKING GROUP.
5. AS REQUESTED, THOMSEN IS RETURNING FOR CONSULTATIONS AT ICA APRIL 21. AGENDA CAN BE FURTHER DISCUSSED AT THAT TIME.
6. ADDITIONAL COMPLICATING FACTOR IS FACT THAT AMINU IS LEADING GOVERNMENT NEGOTIATIONS WITH NATIONAL UNION OF NIGERIAN STUDENTS (NUNS) ON THE QUESTION OF THE INCREASE IN STUDENT ACCOMMODATION RATES. WHILE HIS OFFICE IS NONCOMMITTAL, IT IS NOT IMPOSSIBLE THAT THIS SITUATION COULD PRECLUDE AMINU'S DEPARTURE, IF SO,

REMAINDER OF THE EDUCATION WORKING GROUP WILL BE LESS
CONCERNED WITH ISSUES IN PAPER.

7. FOR ANDEREGG: REQUEST YOU CALL THOMSEN AT HOME (PHONE
26893) BETWEEN 4 AND 10 P.M. LAGOS TIME AUGUST 19, IF POSSIBLE,
FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION ON THESE MATTERS.
WYMAN

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